

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 12, and 24 are amended by way of this response. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, in paragraphs 0041-0043 of the application, as originally filed.

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 2, 4-13, 15, 16, and 18-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,049,796 to Siitonen et al. (“Siitonen”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,950,988 to Hawkins et al. (“Hawkins”). The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s obviousness rejections for the reasons that follow. Regardless, for the purpose of advancing the prosecution of this case, the Applicant has amended the independent claims to clearly take the claims outside of the scope of what is disclosed by Siitonen and/or Hawkins.

The References Do Not Disclose All of the Features of Applicant’s Claims

Even *if* Siitonen and Hawkins were to be combined in the manner proposed by the Examiner, the Applicant submits that these two references do not disclose *every* feature of each one of Applicant’s claims.

The References Do Not Disclose a “Home Screen Component” within the meaning given to that term by the present application

As explained in the Response filed July 3, 2008, claim 1 describes a wireless communications device configured for use in a wireless network having, *inter alia*, a user interface for controlling the operations of the wireless communications device including a component to compose a destination for an outgoing communication generated by the device, wherein the user interface comprises a home screen component from which to invoke a feature from among a plurality of features provided by the device; and wherein the component to compose a destination is invocable from the home screen component automatically in response to an input from the first input device of a portion of the destination. Independent claims 12 and 24 recite similar features.

At page 8 of the Office Action of April 4, 2008, the Examiner admits that Siitonen fails to teach or suggest that the user interface comprises a home screen component from which to invoke a feature from among a plurality of features provided by the device and wherein the component to compose a destination is invokable from the home screen component automatically in response to an input of a portion of the destination. The Examiner attempts to cure the deficiencies of Siitonen with reference to Hawkins. The Examiner points to Figure 5 and column 9, lines 42-47 of Hawkins, with regards to the claimed home screen component, and to Figure 6B and column 19, lines 42-48, with regards to the claimed component to compose a destination being invokable from the home screen component automatically in response to input of a portion of the destination.

One of the problems that the present application aims to address is clearly laid out in paragraphs 0004-0005 of the application, as originally filed:

Typically, GUIs for wireless mobile devices comprise a main or home screen and one or more sub-screens that may be navigated from the main screen. Notification icons are often rendered on a portion of the main screen to indicate a new event such as the receipt of a new message, for example, electronic mail (e-mail) or other service event such as a calendar reminder or alarm and other status information such as time, date and battery life. For each type of service or function available via the device, a graphical image or icon is often rendered on a major portion of the main screen, which icon may be selected using a cursor or other means to launch a specific GUI for the selected service or function. However, such interfaces give relatively equal priority to each of those services or functions, requiring the user to select an icon or activate another short-cut mechanism (e.g. a specific key such as "m" for e-mail messages, "p" for phone, etc.) to launch the service or function.

However, certain users of multi-tasking wireless communications devices use such devices primarily for one of their communications abilities, for example, as a telephone. Often these and other users desire easier access to the features associated with the primary communications ability such as out call dialing or other communication initiation.

The section cited above clearly lays out that the "home screen" as defined in the present application is a "main screen" having one or more sub-screens that may be navigated

from the main screen. Notification icons are often rendered on a portion of the main screen to indicate a new event such as the receipt of a new message, for example, electronic mail (e-mail) or other service event such as a calendar reminder or alarm and other status information such as time, date and battery life. Based on this description, as well as the further usage of the phrase “home screen”, as used consistently in this fashion throughout the description, the meaning of the phrase “home screen” would be very clear to one skilled in the art and the Applicant’s usage of “home screen” is consistent with what would be expected by one skilled in the art. Further, the Applicant is entitled to be his own lexicographer in this regard, and has defined “home screen” in the application as outlined above.

In contrast, the cited portion of Hawkins describes the screen shown in FIG. 5 as a contacts view. Further, it is plainly visible from comparing FIG. 5 and FIG. 6B of Hawkins that the two diagrams illustrate the same screen, which are both labelled “contacts.” Hawkins discusses the contacts view, at Column 19, lines 35-45, in connections with FIGS. 6A and 6B:

Referring now to FIG. 6A, initial contact screen 600 is shown. Screen 600 may be activated, for example, by simply turning on device 100, or by entering a mode for directory lookup, or by activating a phone application. Screen 600 includes a number of contact records 601, scroll arrows 502 and 503 for navigating to additional records, and on-screen controls 602 for activating other functions of device 100.

In one embodiment, screen 600 may be skipped entirely, so that the invention proceeds directly to screen 610, depicted in FIG. 6B, in response to the user entering a keystroke.

Clearly, the contacts view is not the same as the home screen, presently claimed. Hawkins explicitly states that the contact screen 600 may be activated, for example, by simply turning on device 100, or by entering a mode for directory lookup, or by activating a phone application. Hawkins further states that the contacts screen may be skipped entirely. This takes the contacts screen of Hawkins entirely outside of the definition of home screen, as defined by the present application and known to those skilled in the art, as home screens of user interfaces are not “activated” or available to be

“skipped entirely”, as in the case of the contacts view of Hawkins. Home screens are in fact the default screen of a user interface, from which one may activate application icons that may result in one or more sub screens being navigated.

In order to further clearly distinguish the meaning of “home screen”, as used in the pending independent claims, from what is meant by the contact screens of Hawkins, the independent claims have been amended to state that the user interface comprises a home screen component having an application portion displaying application icons for activating associated applications and a mobile status portion. The contacts screen of Hawkins is not a home screen, as presently claimed and defined by the present application, and the contacts screen of Hawkins does not have an application portion displaying application icons for activating associated applications and a mobile status portion, as claimed.

Therefore, it is submitted that Hawkins fails to teach or suggest a home screen component, having an application portion displaying application icons for activating associated applications and a mobile status portion; and wherein the component to compose a destination is invokable from the home screen component automatically in response to an input from the first input device of a portion of the destination.

Thus, with proper consideration of the language of the claims, and in particular the features that the home screen component has an application portion displaying application icons for activating associated applications and a mobile status portion, Siitonen and Hawkins, whether taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the subject matter recited by the present claims.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claimed subject matter includes features that are neither taught nor suggested by Siitonen and/or Hawkins, whether taken alone or in combination, and that claim 1 is not obvious in view of Siitonen and/or Hawkins. Independent claims 12 and 24 recite similar features and are patentable over Siitonen and/or Hawkins for the same reasons. Dependent claims 2, 4-11 and 13, and 15-

23 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claims 1 or 12 and are patentable for the same reasons.

Favourable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions in connection with the Applicant's submissions, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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